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COUNTRY

East Germany

SUBJECT

East German Ministry for Post and Telecommunications
Future Plans and Organizational Changes

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In December 1952, the investment plan for 1953 of the Ministry for Telecommunication was designated Regelplan (regulating plan). There were no changes made in the plan up to mid-March 1953, except for a directive ordering that six percent of the total capital to be invested during the plan year 1953 would not be expended. In addition to the Regelplan, a supplementary plan was prepared. The supplementary plan provided for an additional investment of 12 millions eastmarks for the telecommunication department. This money was to be used for the expansion of the telephone exchanges. The KVP was to receive 150 lamp switchboards for military use. The plan made no provisions for the equipment of the county, district and field offices of the Soviet Control Commission. By mid-March 1953, the supplementary plan had not been approved.
2. On 9 February 1953, the chief of the Telecommunication Department of the Ministry, Herr Gebhardt announced a decree issued by the Ministry, according to which funds of the investment plan for 1953 have to be set aside for the procurement of emergency equipment. Telecommunication equipment of various types was to be manufactured and kept in reserve for use in case of an emergency. The Post Office Department received a similar directive. It was known that other government agencies were also preparing emergency measures. Under the investment plan, the Telecommunication Department was organized into the following sections:
 - a. Overhead lines;
 - b. Underground cables for the local telephone systems;
 - c. Underground cables for long distance system;
 - d. Transmitter installations;
 - e. Power supply;
 - f. Switchboards and related equipment;
 - g. Wireless equipment.

The individual sections were ordered to accomplish their own planning. The completed plans of the various sections were coordinated by the SF department (telecommunication special project office). Completed plans, which were classified Secret, were presented at a meeting of the cabinet on 19 February 1953. The plans were approved by the cabinet. However, no funds were available to finance the realization of these plans. On account of acute shortage of skilled

SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

25X1A

workers, the manufacturing plants will not be able to work more than one shift per day.

3. Special efforts were to be concentrated on the telecommunication installations at Binz on Ruegen Island, Sargard and Torgelow. The office for Economic Affairs is cooperating with the Ministry for Telecommunication in all matters concerning the above listed installations. All orders for these projects are now placed as government orders.
4. By the end of 1952, the central post offices were abolished and are now replaced by 14 district post offices and 54 telephone exchanges. Each district office will be staffed by 50 employees. Each telephone exchange was to be staffed by 90 to 100 workers, including the line men. Thus far only 38 telephone exchanges were in operation. In early 1953, advanced planning provided for the establishment of the following offices which were to be financially independent but subordinate to the central telephone and telegraph administration:
 - Transmitting office;
 - Long-distance communication office;
 - Construction office.
5. In January 1953, all matters pertaining to radio were separated from the central telephone and telegraph administration and were in the future to be handled by the Central Institute for Radio Engineering. Herr Gradecki was in charge of the Institute. The government ordered that the technical department and certain offices of the radio advisory board be subordinate to the Central Institute for Radio Engineering. Thus far, all protests by the board were to no avail. Only the television department within the advisory board remained in existence. Herr Augustin was in charge of the television department. In early January 1953, the creation of a plant to manufacture radio transmitters and receivers sets was ordered.
6. In early March, the Entwurfs- und Planungsbuero der Deutschen Post (Designing and Planning Office of the German Post) was established and took over all projecting and designing work previously done by the Hauptabteilung Post und Fernmeldewesen. It was planned that the work of the HV Funk (Main Administration for Radio) was also to be turned over to this office, which was located in the Scheckamt, 12 to 14 Reichstagsufer, Berlin. The personnel of 16 to 18 persons was to be increased to about 40, including the chief Boden (fnu) and Graduate Engineer Alfred Krietsch who was previously chief referent FT 2 (telephone engineering) at the Ministerium fuer Post und Fernmeldewesen.

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1. Comment. The Checking Account Division of the Banking Department of the East German Postal System.

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